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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

| | | | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. 10/786,278 | Applicant(s) CHRISOP ET AL. | |
| | Examiner MARCUS T. RILEY | Art Unit 2625 | |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 March 2008.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,8,9,11-14,18,19,21-23,27 and 28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 5-7, 10, 15-17, 20, 24-26 and 29 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4,8,9,11-14,18,19,21-23,27 and 28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 24 February 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>02/24/2004</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This office action is responsive to the applicant's remarks received on March 13, 2008. **Claims 1-4, 8, 9, 11-14, 18, 19, 21-23, 27 & 28** remain pending. **Claims 5-7, 10, 15-17, 20, 24-26 and 29** are withdrawn from consideration.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to amended **claims 1, 12, & 21** filed on March 13, 2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

A: Applicant's Remarks

Claim 1 as amended recites "printing a proof sheet by the scanner, wherein said proof sheet is representative of the scan job." Support for this amendment can be found in Applicants' specification on at least page 5, lines 17-18. Lopez, alone or in combination with Nomura, does not teach or suggest this subject matter.

Claim 1 as amended also recites "receiving user input corresponding to the proof sheet through the user interface at the scanner, wherein the user input comprises one of the following: (a) input to approve the scan job, (b) input to rescan the plurality of pages, (c) input to edit settings for the scan job, or (d) input to cancel the scan job." Support for this amendment can be found in Applicants' specification on at least page 7, lines 15-20. Lopez, alone or in combination with Nomura, does not teach or suggest this subject matter.

Claim 1 also recites "sending the scan job to a remote computer or computer peripheral on a network if the user input was the input to approve the scan job, whereby enabling the user to proof the scan job before sending the scan job to the remote computer or the computer peripheral on the network." Lopez, alone or in combination with Nomura, does not teach or suggest this subject matter.

Claims 2-4, 8, 9 and 11 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 2-4, 8, 9 and 11 be withdrawn.

Claim 12 as amended includes subject matter similar to the subject matter of claim 1. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 12 be withdrawn because Lopez, alone or in combination with Nomura, does not teach or suggest all of the subject matter of claim 12.

Claims 13, 14, 18 and 19 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 12. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 13, 14, 18 and 19 be withdrawn.

Claim 21 as amended includes subject matter similar to the subject matter of claim 1. As such, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 21 be withdrawn because Lopez, alone or in combination with Nomura, does not teach or suggest all of the subject matter of claim 21.

Claims 22, 23, 27 and 28 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 21. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 22, 23, 27 and 28 be withdrawn.

Examiner's Answer:

Lopez, alone or in combination with Nomura, discloses, teach or suggest the subject matter of Claim 1 as amended. Lopez discloses printing a proof sheet by the scanner, wherein said proof sheet is representative of the scan job ("The scanned image is communicated from the scanner subsystem 86 to a proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82. The proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82 detects and interprets the

markings made by the user in the user designation areas 54 (also known as image selection areas 54) to identify the user-selected image files 2, and associates each of the individual user designation areas 54 with a corresponding image file URL 73 via the identity marker 60.” column 5, lines 13-23); see also (“The printing system preferably includes subsystems which obtain certain image files associated with a specified web page, print a proof sheet associated with those images, allow the user to select which of the images are to be printed, and print these user-selected image files...” column 3, lines 44-49); and see (“...there is illustrated a printing system constructed in accordance with the present invention which enables digital images associated with Internet web pages to be previewed, selected, and printed without the need for a computer attached to the printer...” column 3, lines 40-44).

Lopez, alone or in combination with Nomura, does teach or suggest the subject matter of Claim 1 as amended. Lopez discloses where receive user input corresponding to the proof sheet (*“If a proof sheet 22 containing user selection areas 54 is to be printed, marked by the user, and scanned (“Mark Proof Sheet” branch of 161), then at 162 the proof sheet 22 for the qualified image files 3 is printed.”* column 12, lines 31-34). Nomura discloses receiving user input through the user interface at the scanner, wherein the user input comprises one of the following: (a) input to approve the scan job, (b) input to rescan the plurality of pages, (c) input to edit settings for the scan job, or (d) input to cancel the scan job (*“The various keys of the operation section 302 are namely: a start key 302a, an all clear key 302b, a clear key 302c, ten keys 302d, and a mode switching key group composing of a printing mode key 302e, an image sending key (scanning mode key) 302f, and a photocopying mode key 302g, and a job status key 302h. The start key 302a is a key for giving instructions to start a process of a mode set by using the various keys. The all clear key 302b clears whole setting of the image forming system 1, so as to restore a standard condition of the image forming system 1. The clear key 302c clears condition, which is*

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inputted by the ten keys 302d and the like. The ten keys 302d are keys for inputting numerical information such as a number of sheets to be photocopied. The keys (302e, 302f, and 302g) in the mode switching key group are for switching over the modes for the process (process modes). Moreover, the job status key 302h is a display key (key for a standby job display) of a picture plane regarding a job proceeding status.” column 9, lines 33-52); See also (“Above or below the optical scanning unit 22, provided are a printer control section 24, an image control section 25, and a power source unit 26, and the like. The printer control section 24 contains a process control unit (PCU) substrate and an interface substrate. The PCU substrate controls an electronic photo process, while the interface substrate receives image data inputted externally. The image control section 25 is provided with an image control unit (ICU) substrate for carrying out a predetermined image process with respect to the image data received by the interface substrate, so that the optical scanning unit 22 scans and reads the image.” column 7, lines 22-33);

Lopez, alone or in combination with Nomura, does teach or suggest the subject matter of Claim Lopez discloses “sending the scan job to a remote computer or computer peripheral on a network if the user input was the input to approve the scan job, whereby enabling the user to proof the scan job before sending the scan job to the remote computer or the computer peripheral on the network.” (“*The display section 301 of the operation panel 300 has a default picture plane (standby picture plane), which is a photocopying mode picture plane as shown in FIG. 5. If the image sending key 302f is, for example, pushed in order to switch over the process mode, the process mode is switched over from the photocopying mode to the image sending mode. In response to this, the display section 301 displays a picture plane shown in FIG. 6. Here, the scanning mode is a process mode in which the document read by the scanner 3 is transmitted to a receiver. Examples of the scanning mode include fax*

communication, SCAN TO E-mail, SCAN TO FTP (FTP: File Transfer Protocol) and the like." column 9, lines 53-64).

Claims 2-4, 8, 9 and 11 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 2-4, 8, 9 and 11 are not withdrawn.

Claim 12 as amended includes subject matter similar to the subject matter of claim 1. As such, the rejection of claim 12 is not withdrawn because Lopez, alone or in combination with Nomura, does teach or suggest all of the subject matter of claim 12.

Claims 13, 14, 18 and 19 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 12. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 13, 14, 18 and 19 are not withdrawn.

Claim 21 as amended includes subject matter similar to the subject matter of claim 1. As such, the rejection of claim 21 is not withdrawn because Lopez, alone or in combination with Nomura, does teach or suggest all of the subject matter of claim 21.

Claims 22, 23, 27 and 28 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 21. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 22, 23, 27 and 28 are not withdrawn.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. **Claims 1-4, 8, 9, 11-14, 18, 19, 21-23, 27 and 28** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over by Lopez et al. (US 7,142,318 B2 hereinafter, Lopez '318) in combination with Nomura et al. (US 7,173,724 B2, hereinafter, Nomura '724).

Regarding claim 1; Lopez 318 disclose a method for proofing a scan job, the method comprising: printing a proof sheet by the scanner (*"The marked proof sheet is scanned so as to determine marked selection areas, and the image files associated with the marked selection areas are printed."* column 2, lines 37-39); wherein said proof sheet is representative of the scan job said proof sheet containing a selected sub-set of the information contained within the scan job so that a user can inspect said proof sheet (*"The scanned image is communicated from the scanner subsystem 86 to a proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82. The proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82 detects and interprets the markings made by the user in the user designation areas 54 (also known as image selection areas 54) to identify the user-selected image files 2, and associates each of the individual user designation areas 54 with a corresponding image file URL 73 via the identity marker 60."* column 5, lines 13-23); see also (*"The printing system preferably includes subsystems which obtain certain image files associated with a specified web page, print a proof sheet associated with those images, allow the user to select which of the images are to be printed, and print these user-selected image files..."* column 3, lines 44-49); and see (*"...there is illustrated a printing system constructed in accordance with the present invention which enables digital images associated with Internet web pages to be previewed, selected, and printed without the need for a computer attached to the printer..."* column 3, lines 40-44); receive user input corresponding to the proof sheet (*"If a proof sheet 22 containing user selection areas 54 is to be*

printed, marked by the user, and scanned ("Mark Proof Sheet" branch of 161), then at 162 the proof sheet 22 for the qualified image files 3 is printed." column 12, lines 31-34).

Lopez 318 does not expressly disclose scanning a plurality of pages using a scanner adapted for printing to produce a scan job; providing a user interface at the scanner for a user to approve the scan job, or rescan the plurality of pages, or edit settings for the scan job, or cancel the scan job; receiving user input through the user interface at the scanner, wherein the user input comprises one of the following: (a) input to approve the scan job, (b) input to rescan the plurality of pages, (c) input to edit settings for the scan job, or (d) input to cancel the scan job; and sending the scan job to a remote computer or computer peripheral on a network if the user input was the input to approve the scan job, whereby enabling the user to proof the scan job before sending the scan job to the remote computer or the computer peripheral on the network.

Nomura '724 discloses scanning a plurality of pages using a scanner adapted for printing to produce a scan job (*"The image forming system 1 is provided with a printer 2..., a scanner 3, an automatic document feeder 4... The scanner 3, as well as the automatic document feeder 4 placed on a top of the scanner 3, is supported by system racks 7, so as to have a location above the printer 2..."* column 6, lines 17-25). See also Figure 2 and (*"The scanner 3 has an auto reading mode and manual reading mode. In the auto reading mode, sheet-shaped documents are automatically fed by the automatic document feeder 4, and scanned sheet-by-sheet to be exposed, so as to read document images."* column 8, lines 26-30); providing a user interface at the scanner for a user to approve the scan job, or rescan the plurality of pages, or edit settings for the scan job, or cancel the scan job (*"The various keys of the operation section 302 are namely: a start key 302a, an all clear key 302b, a clear key 302c, ten keys 302d, and a mode switching key*

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group composing of a printing mode key 302e, an image sending key (scanning mode key) 302f, and a photocopying mode key 302g, and a job status key 302h. The start key 302a is a key for giving instructions to start a process of a mode set by using the various keys. The all clear key 302b clears whole setting of the image forming system 1, so as to restore a standard condition of the image forming system 1. The clear key 302c clears condition, which is inputted by the ten keys 302d and the like. The ten keys 302d are keys for inputting numerical information such as a number of sheets to be photocopied. The keys (302e, 302f, and 302g) in the mode switching key group are for switching over the modes for the process (process modes). Moreover, the job status key 302h is a display key (key for a standby job display) of a picture plane regarding a job proceeding status.” column 9, lines 33-52); receiving user input through the user interface at the scanner, wherein the user input comprises one of the following: (a) input to approve the scan job, (b) input to rescan the plurality of pages, (c) input to edit settings for the scan job, or (d) input to cancel the scan job (“The various keys of the operation section 302 are namely: a start key 302a, an all clear key 302b, a clear key 302c, ten keys 302d, and a mode switching key group composing of a printing mode key 302e, an image sending key (scanning mode key) 302f, and a photocopying mode key 302g, and a job status key 302h. The start key 302a is a key for giving instructions to start a process of a mode set by using the various keys. The all clear key 302b clears whole setting of the image forming system 1, so as to restore a standard condition of the image forming system 1. The clear key 302c clears condition, which is inputted by the ten keys 302d and the like. The ten keys 302d are keys for inputting numerical information such as a number of sheets to be photocopied. The keys (302e, 302f, and 302g) in the mode switching key group are for switching over the modes for the process (process modes). Moreover, the job

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status key 302h is a display key (key for a standby job display) of a picture plane regarding a job proceeding status.” column 9, lines 33-52); See also (“Above or below the optical scanning unit 22, provided are a printer control section 24, an image control section 25, and a power source unit 26, and the like. The printer control section 24 contains a process control unit (PCU) substrate and an interface substrate. The PCU substrate controls an electronic photo process, while the interface substrate receives image data inputted externally. The image control section 25 is provided with an image control unit (ICU) substrate for carrying out a predetermined image process with respect to the image data received by the interface substrate, so that the optical scanning unit 22 scans and reads the image.” column 7, lines 22-33); and sending the scan job to a remote computer or computer peripheral on a network if the user input was the input to approve the scan job, whereby enabling the user to proof the scan job before sending the scan job to the remote computer or the computer peripheral on the network (“The display section 301 of the operation panel 300 has a default picture plane (standby picture plane), which is a photocopying mode picture plane as shown in FIG. 5. If the image sending key 302f is, for example, pushed in order to switch over the process mode, the process mode is switched over from the photocopying mode to the image sending mode. In response to this, the display section 301 displays a picture plane shown in FIG. 6. Here, the scanning mode is a process mode in which the document read by the scanner 3 is transmitted to a receiver. Examples of the scanning mode include fax communication, SCAN TO E-mail, SCAN TO FTP (FTP: File Transfer Protocol) and the like.” column 9, lines 53-64).

Lopez ‘318 and Nomura ‘724 are combinable because they are from same field of endeavor of image forming systems (“The present invention relates to an image forming system

provided, in combination, with (a) a scanner for optically reading a document image and (b) a printer for forming an image on a recording medium..." Nomura '724 at column 1, lines 7-10).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the image forming system as taught by Lopez '318 to scan a plurality of pages using a scanner adapted for printing to produce a scan job; providing a user interface at the scanner for a user to approve the scan job, or rescan the plurality of pages, or edit settings for the scan job, or cancel the scan job; receiving user input through the user interface at the scanner, wherein the user input comprises one of the following: (a) input to approve the scan job, (b) input to rescan the plurality of pages, (c) input to edit settings for the scan job, or (d) input to cancel the scan job; and sending the scan job to a remote computer or computer peripheral on a network if the user input was the input to approve the scan job, whereby enabling the user to proof the scan job before sending the scan job to the remote computer or the computer peripheral on the network as taught by Nomura '724.

The motivation for doing so would have been because it would provide a more user-friendly image forming system ("*...the scanner is so sufficiently used that the system is more easily operated, thereby providing a more user-friendly image forming system.*" Nomura '724 at column 3, lines 57-60).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Lopez '318 with Nomura '724 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claim 2; Lopez '318 discloses rendering the entire scan job after sending ("*The image printing subsystem 84 renders each image file 2 according to the printing*

instructions, and sends the print content to the printer subsystem 80 for generating the image prints 26.” column 5, lines 31-35);

Regarding claim 3; Lopez ‘318 discloses the proof sheet includes one or more thumbnail images representing one or more respective pages of the scan job (“...*FIG. 3A is a detailed plan view of an exemplary combination proof sheet and order form 22 that may be utilized with the system 10 of FIG. 1A to select one or more images from an array of thumbnail images such as 52 (FIG. 3C) for final printing.*” column 5, lines 63-67);

Regarding claim 4; Lopez ‘318 discloses the proof sheet includes descriptive information describing the scan job (“*The scanned image is communicated from the scanner subsystem 86 to a proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82. The proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82 detects and interprets the markings made by the user in the user designation areas 54 (also known as image selection areas 54) to identify the user-selected image files 2, and associates each of the individual user designation areas 54 with a corresponding image file URL 73 via the identity marker 60.*” column 5, lines 13-23).

Regarding claim 8; Lopez ‘318 and Nomura ‘724 as modified does not expressly disclose where the user input comprises input to edit settings for the scan job; where the method further comprising the step of storing the scan job in a memory; and receiving user instruction and modifying the stored scan job according to said user instruction prior to said step of sending.

Nomura ‘724 discloses where the user input comprises input to edit settings for the scan job (“*The various keys of the operation section 302 are namely: a start key 302a, an all clear key 302b, a clear key 302c, ten keys 302d, and a mode switching key group composing of a*

printing mode key 302e, an image sending key (scanning mode key) 302f, and a photocopying mode key 302g, and a job status key 302h. The start key 302a is a key for giving instructions to start a process of a mode set by using the various keys. The all clear key 302b clears whole setting of the image forming system 1, so as to restore a standard condition of the image forming system 1. The clear key 302c clears condition, which is inputted by the ten keys 302d and the like. The ten keys 302d are keys for inputting numerical information such as a number of sheets to be photocopied. The keys (302e, 302f, and 302g) in the mode switching key group are for switching over the modes for the process (process modes). Moreover, the job status key 302h is a display key (key for a standby job display) of a picture plane regarding a job proceeding status.”

column 9, lines 33-52); the method further comprising the step of storing the scan job in a memory (“The display section 301 of the scanner 3 is linked with a printer controller (control means) 223 of the printer 2 via a busline and the like. In other words, in the image forming system 1, each of detailed information of the scanner 3, the printer 2, and the whole system, which is displayed on the display section 301 of the scanner 3, is wholly controlled by the printer controller 223. Therefore, in the image forming system 1, both display contents of the printer 2 and the scanner 3 are stored in a VRAM (Video Random Access Memory) (display information storing means) 223a of the printer controller 223. A memory is saved, because the respective detailed information of the printer 2 and the scanner 3 is administered in a unitary manner by the printer controller 223 of the printer 2 in this manner. However, in this case, the VRAM 223a inside the printer 2 also stores, in advance, information regarding content of the display on the large-sized LCD of the scanner 3, providing for the case the printer 2 is combined with the scanner 3 (forming a system). In other words, the VRAM 223a stores both display data to be

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displayed on the display section (small-sized LCD) 221 of the printer 2, and picture data and character data to be displayed on the display section 301 of the scanner 3.” column 10, lines 37-63); receiving user instruction and modifying the stored scan job according to said user instruction prior to said step of sending (“...the image forming system 1 can uses the display section 301, which is a large-sized LCD, of the scanner 3 to display the detailed information of the printer 2. Conventionally, for example, the detailed information of the printer 2, such as instructions how to solve jamming, instructions how to exchange an exchangeable unit, and the like, is displayed on a small-sized LCD of the printer 2, whose display is limited to a small number of characters, thereby causing such a problem that the detailed information is hard to understand for a user.” column 11, lines 19-27).

Lopez ‘318 and Nomura ‘724 are combinable with Nomura ‘724 because they are from same field of endeavor of image forming systems (“*The present invention relates to an image forming system provided, in combination, with (a) a scanner for optically reading a document image and (b) a printer for forming an image on a recording medium...*” Nomura ‘724 at column 1, lines 7-10).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the image forming systems as taught by Lopez ‘318 and Nomura ‘724 to where the user input comprises input to edit settings for the scan job; where the method further comprising the step of storing the scan job in a memory; and receiving user instruction and modifying the stored scan job according to said user instruction prior to said step of sending as taught by Nomura ‘724.

The motivation for doing so would have been because it would provide a more user-friendly image forming system (“...*the scanner is so sufficiently used that the system is more easily operated, thereby providing a more user-friendly image forming system.*” Nomura ‘724 at column 3, lines 57-60).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Lopez ‘318 and Nomura ‘724 with Nomura ‘724 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 1.

Regarding claim 9; Lopez ‘318 discloses the proof sheet includes one or more thumbnail images representing one or more respective pages of the scan job (“...*FIG. 3A is a detailed plan view of an exemplary combination proof sheet and order form 22 that may be utilized with the system 10 of FIG. 1A to select one or more images from an array of thumbnail images such as 52 (FIG. 3C) for final printing.*” column 5, lines 63-67);

Regarding claim 11; Lopez ‘318 discloses rendering the entire scan job after said step of sending (“*The image printing subsystem 84 renders each image file 2 according to the printing instructions, and sends the print content to the printer subsystem 80 for generating the image prints 26.*” column 5, lines 31-35).

Regarding claim 12; Lopez ‘318 discloses an apparatus for proofing a scan job, comprising: printing a proof sheet (“*The marked proof sheet is scanned so as to determine marked selection areas, and the image files associated with the marked selection areas are printed.*” column 2, lines 37-39); wherein said proof sheet is representative of the scan job said proof sheet containing a selected sub-set of the information contained within the scan job so that a user can inspect said proof sheet (“*The scanned image is communicated from the scanner subsystem 86 to a proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82. The proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82*

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detects and interprets the markings made by the user in the user designation areas 54 (also known as image selection areas 54) to identify the user-selected image files 2, and associates each of the individual user designation areas 54 with a corresponding image file URL 73 via the identity marker 60." column 5, lines 13-23); see also ("*The printing system preferably includes subsystems which obtain certain image files associated with a specified web page, print a proof sheet associated with those images, allow the user to select which of the images are to be printed, and print these user-selected image files...*" column 3, lines 44-49); and see ("*...there is illustrated a printing system constructed in accordance with the present invention which enables digital images associated with Internet web pages to be previewed, selected, and printed without the need for a computer attached to the printer...*" column 3, lines 40-44); receive user input corresponding to the proof sheet ("*If a proof sheet 22 containing user selection areas 54 is to be printed, marked by the user, and scanned ("Mark Proof Sheet" branch of 161), then at 162 the proof sheet 22 for the qualified image files 3 is printed.*" column 12, lines 31-34).

Lopez 318 does not expressly disclose a scanner adapted for printing; a processing unit adapted to: scan a plurality of pages using the scanner to produce a scan job; providing a user interface at the scanner for a user to approve the scan job, or rescan the plurality of pages, or edit settings for the scan job, or cancel the scan job; receive user input through the user interface at the scanner, wherein the user input comprises one of the following: (a) input to approve the scan job, (b) input to rescan the plurality of pages, (c) input to edit settings for the scan job, or (d) input to cancel the scan job; and sending the scan job to a remote computer or computer peripheral on a network if the user input was the input to approve the scan job, whereby enabling

the user to proof the scan job before sending the scan job to the remote computer or the computer peripheral on the network.

Nomura '724 discloses a scanner adapted for printing (*"The image forming system 1 is provided with a printer 2..., a scanner 3, an automatic document feeder 4... The scanner 3, as well as the automatic document feeder 4 placed on a top of the scanner 3, is supported by system racks 7, so as to have a location above the printer 2..."* column 6, lines 17-25). See also Figure 2 and (*"The scanner 3 has an auto reading mode and manual reading mode. In the auto reading mode, sheet-shaped documents are automatically fed by the automatic document feeder 4, and scanned sheet-by-sheet to be exposed, so as to read document images."* column 8, lines 26-30); a processing unit adapted to: scan a plurality of pages using the scanner to produce a scan job (*"The image forming system 1 is provided with a printer 2..., a scanner 3, an automatic document feeder 4... The scanner 3, as well as the automatic document feeder 4 placed on a top of the scanner 3, is supported by system racks 7, so as to have a location above the printer 2..."* column 6, lines 17-25). See also Figure 2 and (*"The scanner 3 has an auto reading mode and manual reading mode. In the auto reading mode, sheet-shaped documents are automatically fed by the automatic document feeder 4, and scanned sheet-by-sheet to be exposed, so as to read document images."* column 8, lines 26-30); providing a user interface at the scanner for a user to approve the scan job, or rescan the plurality of pages, or edit settings for the scan job, or cancel the scan job (*"The various keys of the operation section 302 are namely: a start key 302a, an all clear key 302b, a clear key 302c, ten keys 302d, and a mode switching key group composing of a printing mode key 302e, an image sending key (scanning mode key) 302f, and a photocopying mode key 302g, and a job status key 302h. The start key 302a is a key for giving instructions to*

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start a process of a mode set by using the various keys. The all clear key 302b clears whole setting of the image forming system 1, so as to restore a standard condition of the image forming system 1. The clear key 302c clears condition, which is inputted by the ten keys 302d and the like. The ten keys 302d are keys for inputting numerical information such as a number of sheets to be photocopied. The keys (302e, 302f, and 302g) in the mode switching key group are for switching over the modes for the process (process modes). Moreover, the job status key 302h is a display key (key for a standby job display) of a picture plane regarding a job proceeding status.”

column 9, lines 33-52); receive user input through the user interface at the scanner, wherein the user input comprises one of the following: (a) input to approve the scan job, (b) input to rescan the plurality of pages, (c) input to edit settings for the scan job, or (d) input to cancel the scan job (“The various keys of the operation section 302 are namely: a start key 302a, an all clear key 302b, a clear key 302c, ten keys 302d, and a mode switching key group composing of a printing mode key 302e, an image sending key (scanning mode key) 302f, and a photocopying mode key 302g, and a job status key 302h. The start key 302a is a key for giving instructions to start a process of a mode set by using the various keys. The all clear key 302b clears whole setting of the image forming system 1, so as to restore a standard condition of the image forming system 1. The clear key 302c clears condition, which is inputted by the ten keys 302d and the like. The ten keys 302d are keys for inputting numerical information such as a number of sheets to be photocopied. The keys (302e, 302f, and 302g) in the mode switching key group are for switching over the modes for the process (process modes). Moreover, the job status key 302h is a display key (key for a standby job display) of a picture plane regarding a job proceeding status.” column 9, lines 33-52); See also (“Above or below the optical scanning unit 22, provided are a

printer control section 24, an image control section 25, and a power source unit 26, and the like. The printer control section 24 contains a process control unit (PCU) substrate and an interface substrate. The PCU substrate controls an electronic photo process, while the interface substrate receives image data inputted externally. The image control section 25 is provided with an image control unit (ICU) substrate for carrying out a predetermined image process with respect to the image data received by the interface substrate, so that the optical scanning unit 22 scans and reads the image.” column 7, lines 22-33); and sending the scan job to a remote computer or computer peripheral on a network if the user input was the input to approve the scan job, whereby enabling the user to proof the scan job before sending the scan job to the remote computer or the computer peripheral on the network (“The display section 301 of the operation panel 300 has a default picture plane (standby picture plane), which is a photocopying mode picture plane as shown in FIG. 5. If the image sending key 302f is, for example, pushed in order to switch over the process mode, the process mode is switched over from the photocopying mode to the image sending mode. In response to this, the display section 301 displays a picture plane shown in FIG. 6. Here, the scanning mode is a process mode in which the document read by the scanner 3 is transmitted to a receiver. Examples of the scanning mode include fax communication, SCAN TO E-mail, SCAN TO FTP (FTP: File Transfer Protocol) and the like.” column 9, lines 53-64).

Lopez ‘318 and Nomura ‘724 are combinable because they are from same field of endeavor of image forming systems (“The present invention relates to an image forming system provided, in combination, with (a) a scanner for optically reading a document image and (b) a printer for forming an image on a recording medium...” Nomura ‘724 at column 1, lines 7-10).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the image forming system as taught by Lopez '318 to add a scanner adapted for printing; a processing unit adapted to: scan a plurality of pages using the scanner to produce a scan job; providing a user interface at the scanner for a user to approve the scan job, or rescan the plurality of pages, or edit settings for the scan job, or cancel the scan job; receive user input through the user interface at the scanner, wherein the user input comprises one of the following: (a) input to approve the scan job, (b) input to rescan the plurality of pages, (c) input to edit settings for the scan job, or (d) input to cancel the scan job; and sending the scan job to a remote computer or computer peripheral on a network if the user input was the input to approve the scan job, whereby enabling the user to proof the scan job before sending the scan job to the remote computer or the computer peripheral on the network as taught by Nomura '724.

The motivation for doing so would have been because it would provide a more user-friendly image forming system (*"...the scanner is so sufficiently used that the system is more easily operated, thereby providing a more user-friendly image forming system."* Nomura '724 at column 3, lines 57-60).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Lopez '318 with Nomura '724 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 12.

Regarding claim 13; Lopez '318 discloses the proof sheet includes one or more thumbnail images representing one or more respective pages of the scan job (*"...FIG. 3A is a detailed plan view of an exemplary combination proof sheet and order form 22 that may be utilized with the system 10 of FIG. 1A to select one or more images from an array of thumbnail images such as 52 (FIG. 3C) for final printing."* column 5, lines 63-67);

Regarding claim 14; Lopez ‘318 discloses the proof sheet includes descriptive information describing the scan job (“*The scanned image is communicated from the scanner subsystem 86 to a proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82. The proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82 detects and interprets the markings made by the user in the user designation areas 54 (also known as image selection areas 54) to identify the user-selected image files 2, and associates each of the individual user designation areas 54 with a corresponding image file URL 73 via the identity marker 60.*” column 5, lines 13-23);

Regarding claim 18; Lopez ‘318 and Nomura ‘724 as modified does not expressly disclose an apparatus further comprising a memory, wherein, where the user input comprises input to edit settings for the scan job; the processing unit is adapted to store the scan job in said memory; receive user instruction, and modify the stored scan job according to said user instruction prior to sending the scan job.

Nomura ‘724 discloses an apparatus further comprising a memory, wherein, where the user input comprises input to edit settings for the scan job (“*The various keys of the operation section 302 are namely: a start key 302a, an all clear key 302b, a clear key 302c, ten keys 302d, and a mode switching key group composing of a printing mode key 302e, an image sending key (scanning mode key) 302f, and a photocopying mode key 302g, and a job status key 302h. The start key 302a is a key for giving instructions to start a process of a mode set by using the various keys. The all clear key 302b clears whole setting of the image forming system 1, so as to restore a standard condition of the image forming system 1. The clear key 302c clears condition, which is inputted by the ten keys 302d and the like. The ten keys 302d are keys for inputting numerical information such as a number of sheets to be photocopied. The keys (302e, 302f, and*

302g) in the mode switching key group are for switching over the modes for the process (process modes). Moreover, the job status key 302h is a display key (key for a standby job display) of a picture plane regarding a job proceeding status.” column 9, lines 33-52); the processing unit is adapted to store the scan job in said memory (“The display section 301 of the scanner 3 is linked with a printer controller (control means) 223 of the printer 2 via a busline and the like. In other words, in the image forming system 1, each of detailed information of the scanner 3, the printer 2, and the whole system, which is displayed on the display section 301 of the scanner 3, is wholly controlled by the printer controller 223. Therefore, in the image forming system 1, both display contents of the printer 2 and the scanner 3 are stored in a VRAM (Video Random Access Memory) (display information storing means) 223a of the printer controller 223. A memory is saved, because the respective detailed information of the printer 2 and the scanner 3 is administered in a unitary manner by the printer controller 223 of the printer 2 in this manner. However, in this case, the VRAM 223a inside the printer 2 also stores, in advance, information regarding content of the display on the large-sized LCD of the scanner 3, providing for the case the printer 2 is combined with the scanner 3 (forming a system). In other words, the VRAM 223a stores both display data to be displayed on the display section (small-sized LCD) 221 of the printer 2, and picture data and character data to be displayed on the display section 301 of the scanner 3.” column 10, lines 37-63); receive user instruction, and modify the stored scan job according to said user instruction prior to sending the scan job (“...the image forming system 1 can uses the display section 301, which is a large-sized LCD, of the scanner 3 to display the detailed information of the printer 2. Conventionally, for example, the detailed information of the printer 2, such as instructions how to solve jamming, instructions how to exchange an

exchangeable unit, and the like, is displayed on a small-sized LCD of the printer 2, whose display is limited to a small number of characters, thereby causing such a problem that the detailed information is hard to understand for a user." column 11, lines 19-27).

Lopez '318 and Nomura '724 are combinable with Nomura '724 because they are from same field of endeavor of image forming systems (*"The present invention relates to an image forming system provided, in combination, with (a) a scanner for optically reading a document image and (b) a printer for forming an image on a recording medium..."* Nomura '724 at column 1, lines 7-10).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the image forming systems as taught by Lopez '318 and Nomura '724 by adding an apparatus further comprising a memory, wherein, where the user input comprises input to edit settings for the scan job; the processing unit is adapted to store the scan job in said memory; receive user instruction, and modify the stored scan job according to said user instruction prior to sending the scan job as taught by Nomura '724.

The motivation for doing so would have been because it would provide a more user-friendly image forming system (*"...the scanner is so sufficiently used that the system is more easily operated, thereby providing a more user-friendly image forming system."* Nomura '724 at column 3, lines 57-60).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Lopez '318 and Nomura '724 with Nomura '724 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 12.

Regarding claim 19; Lopez '318 discloses a proof sheet including one or more thumbnail images representing one or more respective pages of the scan job (*"...FIG. 3A is a*

detailed plan view of an exemplary combination proof sheet and order form 22 that may be utilized with the system 10 of FIG. 1A to select one or more images from an array of thumbnail images such as 52 (FIG. 3C) for final printing.” column 5, lines 63-67);

Regarding claim 21; Lopez ‘318 discloses a computer-readable medium configured to store a set of instructions executable to: scan a plurality of pages using a scanner adapted for printing to produce a scan job (*“The image forming system 1 is provided with a printer 2..., a scanner 3, an automatic document feeder 4... The scanner 3, as well as the automatic document feeder 4 placed on a top of the scanner 3, is supported by system racks 7, so as to have a location above the printer 2...” column 6, lines 17-25*). See also Figure 2 and (*“The scanner 3 has an auto reading mode and manual reading mode. In the auto reading mode, sheet-shaped documents are automatically fed by the automatic document feeder 4, and scanned sheet-by-sheet to be exposed, so as to read document images.” column 8, lines 26-30*); print a proof sheet by the scanner, wherein said proof sheet is representative of the scan job said proof sheet containing a selected sub-set of the information contained within the scan job so that a user can inspect said proof sheet (*“The scanned image is communicated from the scanner subsystem 86 to a proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82. The proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82 detects and interprets the markings made by the user in the user designation areas 54 (also known as image selection areas 54) to identify the user-selected image files 2, and associates each of the individual user designation areas 54 with a corresponding image file URL 73 via the identity marker 60.” column 5, lines 13-23*); see also (*“The marked proof sheet is scanned so as to determine marked selection areas, and the image files associated with the marked selection areas are printed.” column 2, lines 37-39*); and see (*“The printing system preferably includes*

subsystems which obtain certain image files associated with a specified web page, print a proof sheet associated with those images, allow the user to select which of the images are to be printed, and print these user-selected image files..." column 3, lines 44-49); receive user input corresponding to the proof sheet (*"If a proof sheet 22 containing user selection areas 54 is to be printed, marked by the user, and scanned ("Mark Proof Sheet" branch of 161), then at 162 the proof sheet 22 for the qualified image files 3 is printed."* column 12, lines 31-34).

Lopez '318 does not expressly disclose providing a user interface at the scanner for a user to approve the scan job, or rescan the plurality of pages, or edit settings for the scan job, or cancel the scan job; receive user input through the user interface at the scanner, wherein the user input comprises one of the following: (a) input to approve the scan job, (b) input to rescan the plurality of pages, (c) input to edit settings for the scan job, or (d) input to cancel the scan job; send the scan job to a remote computer or computer peripheral on a network if the user input was the input to approve the scan job, whereby enabling the user to proof the scan job before sending the scan job to the remote computer or the computer peripheral on the network.

Nomura '724 discloses providing a user interface at the scanner for a user to approve the scan job, or rescan the plurality of pages, or edit settings for the scan job, or cancel the scan job; receive user input through the user interface at the scanner, wherein the user input comprises one of the following: (a) input to approve the scan job, (b) input to rescan the plurality of pages, (c) input to edit settings for the scan job, or (d) input to cancel the scan job (*"The various keys of the operation section 302 are namely: a start key 302a, an all clear key 302b, a clear key 302c, ten keys 302d, and a mode switching key group composing of a printing mode key 302e, an image sending key (scanning mode key) 302f, and a photocopying mode key 302g, and a job status key*

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302h. The start key 302a is a key for giving instructions to start a process of a mode set by using the various keys. The all clear key 302b clears whole setting of the image forming system 1, so as to restore a standard condition of the image forming system 1. The clear key 302c clears condition, which is inputted by the ten keys 302d and the like. The ten keys 302d are keys for inputting numerical information such as a number of sheets to be photocopied. The keys (302e, 302f, and 302g) in the mode switching key group are for switching over the modes for the process (process modes). Moreover, the job status key 302h is a display key (key for a standby job display) of a picture plane regarding a job proceeding status.” column 9, lines 33-52); See also (“Above or below the optical scanning unit 22, provided are a printer control section 24, an image control section 25, and a power source unit 26, and the like. The printer control section 24 contains a process control unit (PCU) substrate and an interface substrate. The PCU substrate controls an electronic photo process, while the interface substrate receives image data inputted externally. The image control section 25 is provided with an image control unit (ICU) substrate for carrying out a predetermined image process with respect to the image data received by the interface substrate, so that the optical scanning unit 22 scans and reads the image.” column 7, lines 22-33); and send the scan job to a remote computer or computer peripheral on a network if the user input was the input to approve the scan job, whereby enabling the user to proof the scan job before sending the scan job to the remote computer or the computer peripheral on the network (“The display section 301 of the operation panel 300 has a default picture plane (standby picture plane), which is a photocopying mode picture plane as shown in FIG. 5. If the image sending key 302f is, for example, pushed in order to switch over the process mode, the process mode is switched over from the photocopying mode to the image sending

mode. In response to this, the display section 301 displays a picture plane shown in FIG. 6. Here, the scanning mode is a process mode in which the document read by the scanner 3 is transmitted to a receiver. Examples of the scanning mode include fax communication, SCAN TO E-mail, SCAN TO FTP (FTP: File Transfer Protocol) and the like.” column 9, lines 53-64).

Lopez ‘318 and Nomura ‘724 are combinable because they are from same field of endeavor of image forming systems (*“The present invention relates to an image forming system provided, in combination, with (a) a scanner for optically reading a document image and (b) a printer for forming an image on a recording medium...”* Nomura ‘724 at column 1, lines 7-10).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the image forming system as taught by Lopez ‘318 to add a providing a user interface at the scanner for a user to approve the scan job, or rescan the plurality of pages, or edit settings for the scan job, or cancel the scan job; receive user input through the user interface at the scanner, wherein the user input comprises one of the following: (a) input to approve the scan job, (b) input to rescan the plurality of pages, (c) input to edit settings for the scan job, or (d) input to cancel the scan job; send the scan job to a remote computer or computer peripheral on a network if the user input was the input to approve the scan job, whereby enabling the user to proof the scan job before sending the scan job to the remote computer or the computer peripheral on the network as taught by Nomura ‘724.

The motivation for doing so would have been because it would provide a more user-friendly image forming system (*“...the scanner is so sufficiently used that the system is more easily operated, thereby providing a more user-friendly image forming system.”* Nomura ‘724 at column 3, lines 57-60).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Lopez '318 with Nomura '724 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 21.

Regarding claim 22; Lopez '318 discloses a proof sheet including one or more thumbnail images representing one or more respective pages of the scan job ("*...FIG. 3A is a detailed plan view of an exemplary combination proof sheet and order form 22 that may be utilized with the system 10 of FIG. 1A to select one or more images from an array of thumbnail images such as 52 (FIG. 3C) for final printing.*" column 5, lines 63-67).

Regarding claim 23; Lopez '318 discloses a proof sheet including descriptive information describing the scan job ("*The scanned image is communicated from the scanner subsystem 86 to a proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82. The proof sheet analyzer subsystem 82 detects and interprets the markings made by the user in the user designation areas 54 (also known as image selection areas 54) to identify the user-selected image files 2, and associates each of the individual user designation areas 54 with a corresponding image file URL 73 via the identity marker 60.*" column 5, lines 13-23).

Regarding claim 27; Lopez '318 and Nomura '724 as modified does not expressly disclose where the user input comprises input to edit settings for the scan job; the instructions are further executable to store the scan job in a memory; receive user instruction, and modify the stored scan job according to said user instruction prior to said step of sending.

Nomura '724 discloses where the user input comprises input to edit settings for the scan job ("*The various keys of the operation section 302 are namely: a start key 302a, an all clear key 302b, a clear key 302c, ten keys 302d, and a mode switching key group composing of a*

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printing mode key 302e, an image sending key (scanning mode key) 302f, and a photocopying mode key 302g, and a job status key 302h. The start key 302a is a key for giving instructions to start a process of a mode set by using the various keys. The all clear key 302b clears whole setting of the image forming system 1, so as to restore a standard condition of the image forming system 1. The clear key 302c clears condition, which is inputted by the ten keys 302d and the like. The ten keys 302d are keys for inputting numerical information such as a number of sheets to be photocopied. The keys (302e, 302f, and 302g) in the mode switching key group are for switching over the modes for the process (process modes). Moreover, the job status key 302h is a display key (key for a standby job display) of a picture plane regarding a job proceeding status.”

column 9, lines 33-52); the instructions are further executable to store the scan job in a memory (“The display section 301 of the scanner 3 is linked with a printer controller (control means) 223 of the printer 2 via a busline and the like. In other words, in the image forming system 1, each of detailed information of the scanner 3, the printer 2, and the whole system, which is displayed on the display section 301 of the scanner 3, is wholly controlled by the printer controller 223. Therefore, in the image forming system 1, both display contents of the printer 2 and the scanner 3 are stored in a VRAM (Video Random Access Memory) (display information storing means) 223a of the printer controller 223. A memory is saved, because the respective detailed information of the printer 2 and the scanner 3 is administered in a unitary manner by the printer controller 223 of the printer 2 in this manner. However, in this case, the VRAM 223a inside the printer 2 also stores, in advance, information regarding content of the display on the large-sized LCD of the scanner 3, providing for the case the printer 2 is combined with the scanner 3 (forming a system). In other words, the VRAM 223a stores both display data to be displayed on

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the display section (small-sized LCD) 221 of the printer 2, and picture data and character data to be displayed on the display section 301 of the scanner 3.” column 10, lines 37-63); receive user instruction, and modify the stored scan job according to said user instruction prior to said step of sending (“...the image forming system 1 can uses the display section 301, which is a large-sized LCD, of the scanner 3 to display the detailed information of the printer 2. Conventionally, for example, the detailed information of the printer 2, such as instructions how to solve jamming, instructions how to exchange an exchangeable unit, and the like, is displayed on a small-sized LCD of the printer 2, whose display is limited to a small number of characters, thereby causing such a problem that the detailed information is hard to understand for a user.” column 11, lines 19-27).

Lopez ‘318 and Nomura ‘724 are combinable with Nomura ‘724 because they are from same field of endeavor of image forming systems (“*The present invention relates to an image forming system provided, in combination, with (a) a scanner for optically reading a document image and (b) a printer for forming an image on a recording medium...*” Nomura ‘724 at column 1, lines 7-10).

At the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the image forming systems as taught by Lopez ‘318 and Nomura ‘724 to add where the user input comprises an input to edit settings for the scan job; the instructions are further executable to store the scan job in a memory; receive user instruction, and modify the stored scan job according to said user instruction prior to said step of sending as taught by Nomura ‘724.

The motivation for doing so would have been because it would provide a more user-friendly image forming system (“...*the scanner is so sufficiently used that the system is more easily operated, thereby providing a more user-friendly image forming system.*” Nomura ‘724 at column 3, lines 57-60).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to combine Lopez ‘318 and Nomura ‘724 with Nomura ‘724 to obtain the invention as specified in claim 21.

Regarding claim 28; Lopez ‘318 disclose a proof sheet that includes one or more thumbnail images representing one or more respective pages of the scan job (“...*FIG. 3A is a detailed plan view of an exemplary combination proof sheet and order form 22 that may be utilized with the system 10 of FIG. 1A to select one or more images from an array of thumbnail images such as 52 (FIG. 3C) for final printing.*” column 5, lines 63-67).

Conclusion

5. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37

CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to MARCUS T. RILEY whose telephone number is (571)270-1581. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 7:30-5:00, est.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Twyler L. Haskins can be reached on 571-272-7406. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

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